



Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Crime Prevention Unit



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

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Important Numbers:

- * **Emergency 911**
- * **Non-Emergency**
703-777-1021
703-777-0445
- * **Poison Control**
1-800-222-1222
- * **Animal Control**
703-777-0406
- * **Sheriffs Office Admin**
703-771-0407
- * **Narcotic Tip Line**
703-779-0552
- * **Crime Solvers**
703-777-1919

Issue 5

February 1, 2009

Changes In Neighborhood Watch

Due to increases in the amount of new neighborhood watches being formed, the crime prevention unit will be reorganizing in order to work with everyone more efficiently.

Neighborhood watches will now be given certain areas and the classes for neighborhood watch groups in that area will be held in a centralized location. Doing this will allow more people to attend training at one time. This will also assist the coordinator in getting their neighborhoods the two required trainings per year.

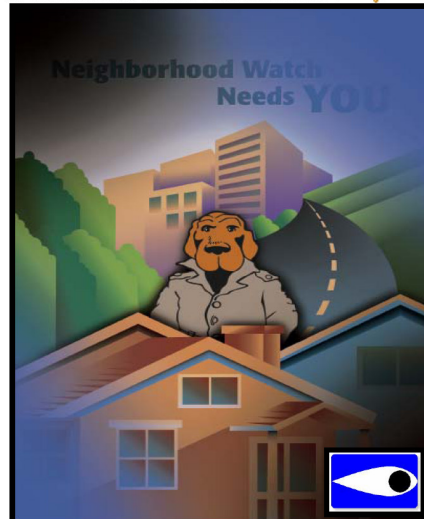
We will also be scheduling a coordinator only meeting once per year in those areas so that each coordinator can talk about what is going on

in his/her area and share their ideas with the other coordinators.

Making these changes will mean that your normal point of contact may be changing. As of right now Deputy Spurlock will have all the Neighborhood Watch programs to the North of Rt.7 and east of Rt. 28. Deputy Payne will have all the Neighborhood Watches to the South of Rt. 7 and West of Rt.

28. If your coordinator has changed they will be contacting you within the next couple weeks.

LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM GUIDE



Sterling Burglaries

There have been a recent increase in burglaries in the Sterling area. Loudoun County Sheriffs Office wants to remind everyone to keep their doors locked. All doors into the residence should be equipped with a dead bolt lock. Sliding

glass doors should be equipped with a Charlie bar or a wooden dowel in the tracks of the door. The Crime Prevention Unit would also like to remind everyone that they do free home security inspections. If you want a home secu-

rity inspection please call:
Deputy Specialist Payne
at 703-777-0477
Deputy Specialist Spurlock
at 703-771-5749.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can airsoft guns be fired in my neighborhood?

BB, Airsoft and Paint ball guns are hobbies kids are getting into these days, but what are the laws about these type of weapons? According to Loudoun County Ordinance 684.02, these weapons are allowed to be purchased, but there are very few areas that they can be used. Breaking this ordinance is a class 1 misdemeanor punishable by up to 1 year in jail and a \$2500 fine.

Also, another good thing to keep in mind is although it is not a real firearm the state of Virginia treats it as such in

brandishing cases.

Q: I am having problems with commercial vehicles parking in my neighborhood. Is there anything that can be done about that?

Loudoun County Ordinance 480.09 states that a commercial vehicle is a vehicle that has more than 2 axles or has a rated capacity in excess of 1.5 tons. Those vehicles are not allowed to park within or along a public highway where the land abutting is in a residential district.

Loudoun County Ordinance 480.10

deals with recreational vehicles such as travel trailers, campers, motorized dwellings and boats. Those vehicles can not be parked more than 24 hours within or on a public highway where the land abutting is a Residential District. Keep in mind HOA's may differ in what they allow.



If you would like to have a question answered, please e-mail the question to **Nathaniel.Payne@loudoun.gov** or **James.Spurlock@loudoun.gov**

Theft from Vehicles

In January so far more than 56 incidents have occurred. This is still an ongoing problem in Loudoun County. It is also an easily solved one. The most commonly taken items include GPS, small electronics and money. Also beware if you are parked somewhere other than your residence and have a garage door opener in your vehicle as well as a GPS system. The GPS can save your home address and your garage door opener can allow a thief an entry point. Be sure to remove these items at all times, keep your vehicle locked, and park in a garage if you have it available. We, as a County, need to curb this trend of theft from vehicles.



Theft of Vehicles

In January there has been a spike of vehicle thefts. Most have occurred in the Sterling area and are primarily Honda type vehicles. The most popular stolen car is the Honda Civic.

Some helpful tips:

1. LOCK YOUR VEHICLE
2. Park in well lit and high traffic areas.
3. Never leave keys in a vehicle.
4. Investigate purchasing a vehicle tracking system. (especially if you have a frequently stolen model)
5. Install a mechanical device that can lock steering wheel, steering column, or brakes. These devices can deter criminals.

H.E.A.T

HEAT is an acronym for Help Eliminate Auto Theft. This is a cooperative effort of the Virginia State police, DMV, and local law enforcement. H.E.A.T. provides a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week toll-free number—1-800-947-HEAT (4328)—for citizens to call and report information concerning the theft of vehicles, vehicle parts or chop shop operations. Callers may remain anonymous throughout the process. Additionally callers who supply tips leading to arrests are eligible for rewards of up to \$25,000. For more information, please visit www.heatreward.com

Upcoming events

February 7, 2009 Child Id Event Dulles Town Center 10:00am-4:00pm

April 14th, 700 pm Gang Awareness, Ashburn Location: Lakes Recreation Center

October 13, 700 pm Home Security, Ashburn Location: Lakes Recreation Center

Loudoun County BB Gun Ordinance

684.02 DISCHARGING BB GUNS IN HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS.

- (a) **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to provide against the shooting of air-operated, carbon dioxide gas-operated and spring-operated weapons in heavily populated areas of the County, under authority granted the County in Section 15.2-1209 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended.
- (b) **Definition.** "BB gun," for the purposes of this section, means and includes any air gun, air rifle and similar device designed and intended to expel a projectile through a gun barrel of any length by means of expansion or release of compressed carbon dioxide gas or compressed air or by a combination of spring action and compressed air. The term "BB gun" includes, but is not limited to, devices commonly referred to as paint ball guns, which operate by this means.
- (c) **Unlawful.** No person shall discharge any BB gun in the unincorporated portion of the County, except those areas zoned A-3, A-10 or A-25 under the Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance. This section shall not be deemed to prohibit the following acts:
- (1) Any shooting or discharge of BB guns upon a lawfully existing target, trap or skeet range;
 - (2) Any shooting or discharge of BB guns upon a target range operated by any police department or other law enforcement agency;
 - (3) Any discharge of BB guns in an entirely indoor target range, provided that adequate provisions are made to retain within the structure all projectiles discharged; and
 - (4) Any discharge of an unloaded BB gun, or any discharge of a BB gun not resulting in the expulsion of a projectile.
- (Ord. 00-07. Passed 7-8-00.)

See Attached Map

Commercial Vehicle Ordinance

480.09 PARKING COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES.

No person shall park any commercial vehicle, except while loading or unloading, while involved in construction work or while performing services, such as repair and/or installation of equipment, within or along any public highway of the County where the land abutting such highway is classified as a Residential District under the Zoning Ordinance of the County.

For purposes of this section, a "commercial vehicle" is any vehicle with a rated capacity in excess of 1.5 tons or with more than two axles, or both.

(Ord. 97-01. Passed 2-19-97.)

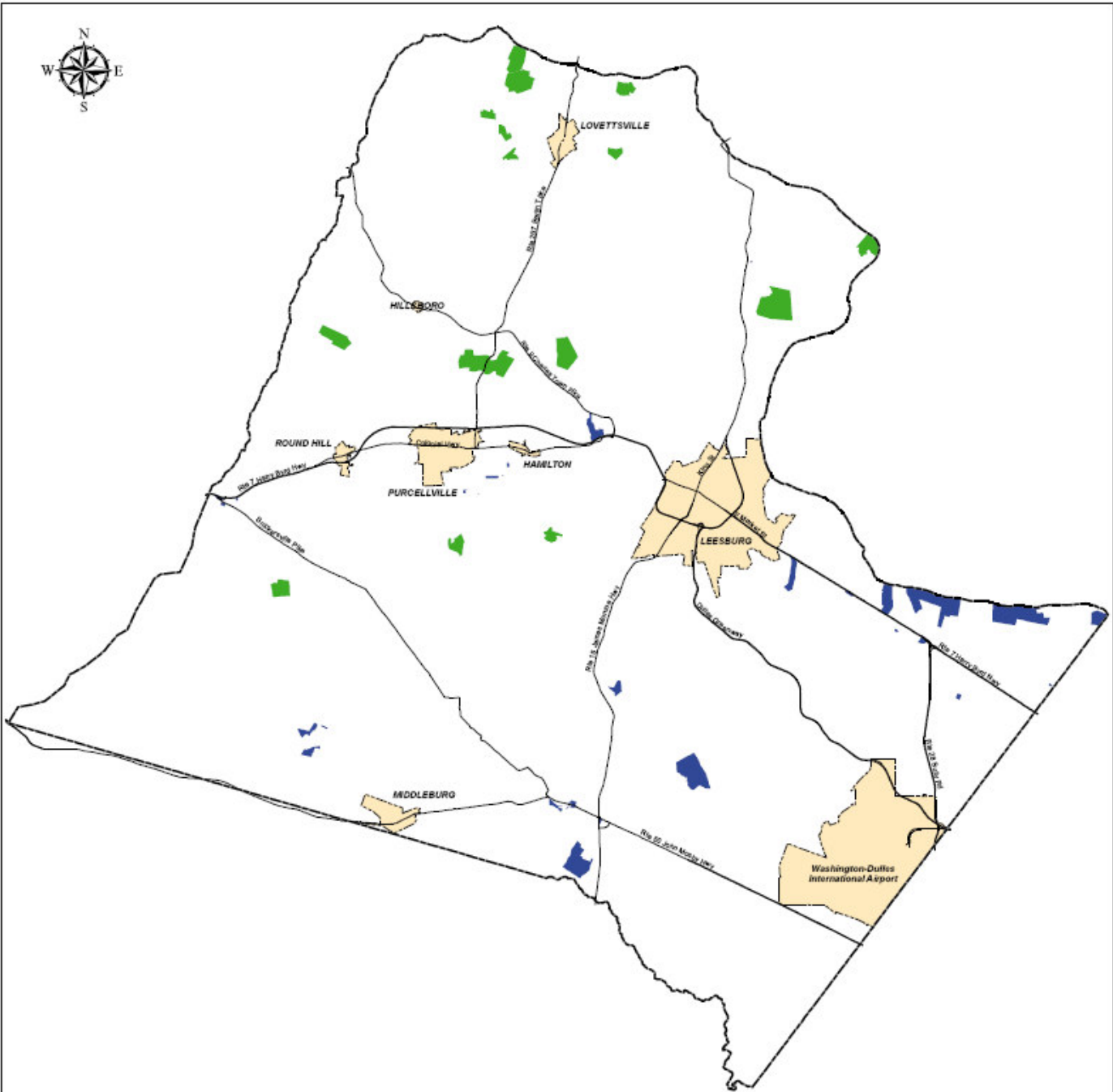
480.10 PARKING MAJOR RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES.

No person shall park any major recreational equipment for longer than twenty-four hours within or along any public highway of the County where the land abutting such highway is classified as a Residential District under the Zoning Ordinance of the County.






For purposes of this section, "major recreational equipment" is defined as travel trailers, pick-up campers, motorized dwellings, tent trailers, boats and boat trailers, houseboats and the like and cases or boxes used for transporting such recreational equipment, whether occupied by such equipment or not.

This section shall become effective on June 15, 1997.

(Ord. 97-01. Passed 2-19-97.)



Loudoun County Zoning Areas A3 & A10

-  County Boundary
-  Major Roads
-  A3
-  A10
-  Town Boundary



This map was created by the Office of Mapping and Geographic Information
Map Number 2009-019
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